

REMARKS

While applicant disagrees with the restriction requirement set forth in the Office Action, in the interest of forwarding the present application to early examination, applicant elects Group I for examination. Claims 9 – 11, and 14 have been amended to be dependent from claim 1. Claims 9-11 and 14 should be included in Group I for examination along with claims 1 – 8. Claims 12 and 13 have been withdrawn. Claims 15 to 17 have been added. Claim 1 and some of the dependent claims have been amended to place the claims in better form.

Applicant reserves the right to file a divisional application on the non-elected Groups II to IV at a later date.

CONCLUSION

In view of all the foregoing, Applicant submits that the claims pending in this application are patentable over the references of record and are in condition for allowance. Such action at an early date is earnestly solicited. **The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned representative to discuss any outstanding issues that may not have been adequately addressed in this response.**

Respectfully submitted,

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